

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 11, 14, and 17 were previously canceled.

Claim 26 is canceled herein.

Claims 2 and 3 are amended.

Support for the amendment of Claims 2 and 3 is provided by the previously pending claims and the specification as originally filed, for example the Examples.

No new matter is believed to be entered by the present amendments.

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 18-25 are pending in the present application.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that the previous enablement rejection of the claims has been withdrawn (September 21, 2004 Office Action, page 2, paragraph 2). In addition, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the helpful suggestion to overcome the outstanding written description rejection. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendment and remarks herein.

The rejection of Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 18-26 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph (“written description”), is obviated by amendment.

The present invention provides, *inter alia*, An isolated coryneform bacterium wherein an argR gene on a chromosome of the bacterium is disrupted, and the argR gene prior to being disrupted has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:17 (see Claim 2). Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his suggestion to amend the claims to recite that the argR gene prior to being disrupted has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:17, as well as his recognition that such an amendment would place the claims in full compliance with the written description requirement (September 21, 2004 Office Action, paragraph bridging pages 2-3).

Applicants further submit that methods for disrupting a gene of which sequence is known or is similar to the known sequence are well within the purview of the skilled artisan. Accordingly, the skilled artisan would readily appreciate that the inventors of the present application had possession of the claimed invention, including the disrupted argR genes within the scope of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, the present invention is sufficiently described within the context of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Applicants request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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